

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

23 DECEMBER 1963
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Cyprus

a. There was more violence yesterday.

b. Turks are outnumbered three to one on the island. The police are mostly Greek.

c. Each side has a small military contingent (under 1,000) from the mainland, and both have about equal numbers (around 3,000) in clandestine forces of trained irregulars.

d. Turkish Cypriot Vice President Kuchuk, is counselling moderation, but is not sure he can control his people much longer.

e. Makarios told Ambassador Wilkins yesterday that, under the circumstances, he would move more slowly in pushing for constitutional changes.

f. Perhaps so, but his declaration on Saturday that the 1959 treaty of guarantee is null and void will not help. The treaty gives Turkey (as well as Greece and Britain) the right to intervene in Cyprus.

g. Makarios sees it as an obstacle to his plan to revise the constitution. The Turks see it as essential to the protection of their rights.

2. Dominican Republic

a. Further instability is in store following yesterday's resignation of triumvirate President de los Santos.

b. There is increased likelihood of a takeover by the far right in league with some military leaders.

c. De los Santos says his move was prompted by the massacre this weekend of pro-Castro guerrillas, including their leader "Manolo" Tavarez.

d. Influence of the far right has been on the increase of late, and we suspect de los Santos, a relative moderate, has an eye to the future and wants to dissociate himself from the current trend.

3. South Vietnam

a. There are some signs the new government is shaking off its lethargy.

b. A coordinated pacification operation has been launched in a northern coastal province, and a step up in operations is planned in two key provinces south of Saigon where the Viet Cong have made serious gains in recent weeks.

(Cont'd)

c. Contrary to expectations, there was only a slight rise in Viet Cong guerrilla activity on Friday's anniversary of their Liberation Front.

4. Morocco-Algeria

a. King Hassan has indicated to us as well at the British, French, and Spanish that he believes it will not be long before Algerian forces are more than a match for his.

b. Hassan added that the Soviets have recently indicated willingness to provide arms still not delivered under a protocol which he said was signed some time ago. It is a substantial list (e.g., 84 tanks) although it does not include aircraft.

c. Prospects for better relations between Morocco and Algeria have, meanwhile, been set back by Algeria's refusal to receive Hassan's ambassador designate to Algiers.

d. The Algerians said no Moroccan ambassador would be accepted until the Mali border commission completes its work and until Rabat patches up relations with Cairo.

5. Communist
Bloc - Latin
America

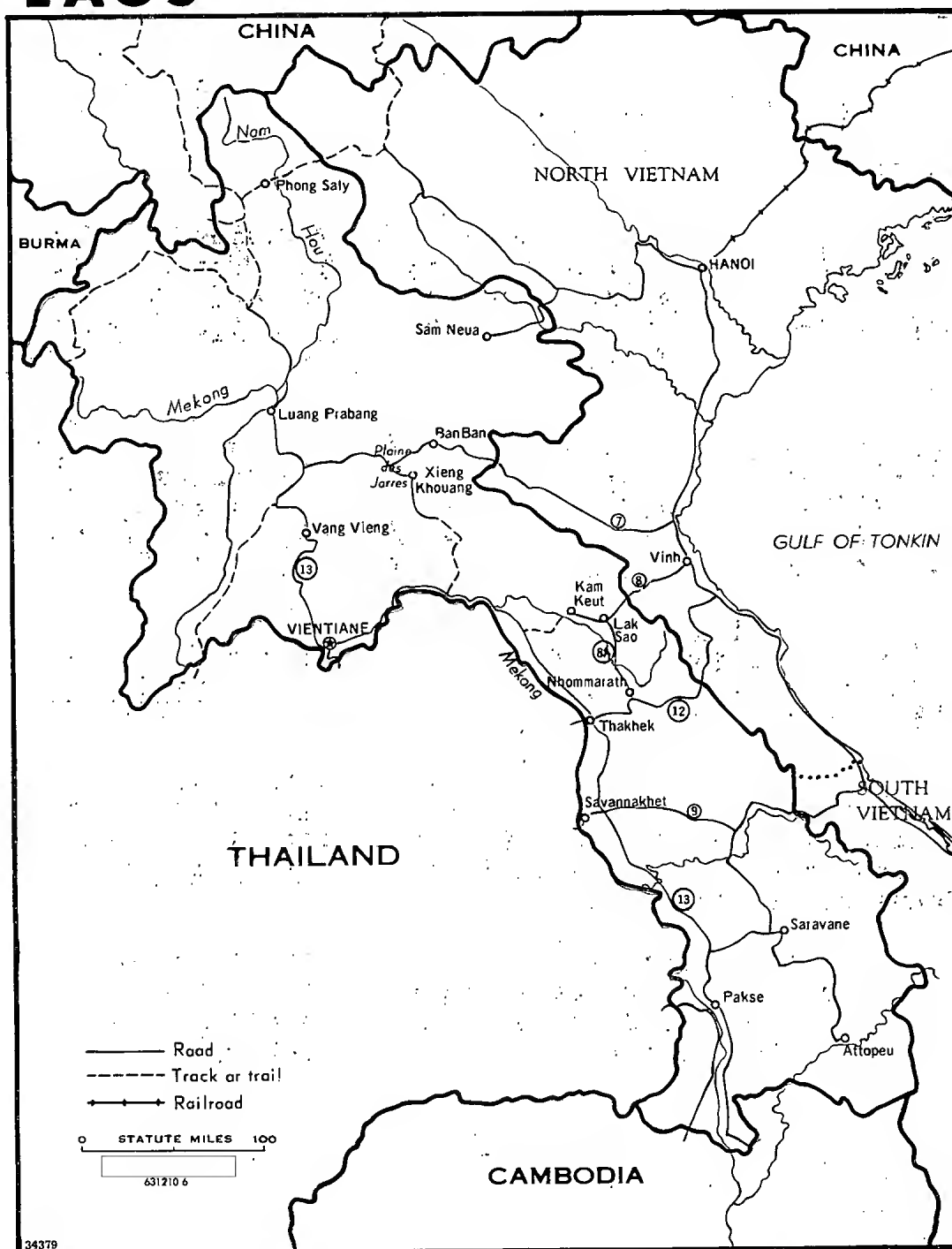
a. The FBI has learned from a Czech party source that Czech and Soviet leaders are "very disturbed" over Cuba's action in shipping arms to the Venezuelan terrorists.

b. The Czechs, according to the report, verified that the arms did in fact come from Cuba. They are critical of Castro for what they consider a "clumsy, uncoordinated" action.

c. Other evidence of Soviet objection to Cuba's support of violent revolutionary movements comes from Khrushchev himself.

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LAOS



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NOTES

A. Laos The Pathet Lao, with substantial help from the North Vietnamese, continue to press westward and southward in central Laos. They have now retaken Kam Keut with the only airfield in the area.

B. Cambodia - South Vietnam

Further talks may be in the making, with the Cambodians coming to Saigon this time.

C.

D.

E. USSR - African students The African students in Moscow have petitioned Khrushchev to guarantee their safety and take steps to reduce racial prejudice among Russians. Some 60 plan to leave if they do not get a satisfactory answer.

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